

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
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Marc ALIZON et al.)
)
Application No.: Unassigned) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
(Cont. of U.S.S.N. 08/423,477 (4/19/95)))
)
Filed: January 23, 2001) Examiner: Unknown
)
For: VARIANT OF LAV VIRUSES)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 1 and add the following new claims.

--23. A purified HIV-1 virus,

wherein said virus encodes a Gag protein comprising an amino acid sequence that comprises at least 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

24. The HIV-1 virus of claim 23, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

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25. The HIV-1 virus of claim 23, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises more than 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

26. The HIV-1 virus of claim 25, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 3 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

27. The HIV-1 virus of claim 25, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 5 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

28. The HIV-1 virus of claim 25, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 7 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

29. A purified HIV-1 virus,

wherein said virus encodes a Pol protein comprising an amino acid sequence that comprises at least 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

30. The HIV-1 virus of claim 29, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

31. The HIV-1 virus of claim 29, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises more than 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

32. The HIV-1 virus of claim 31, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 3 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

33. The HIV-1 virus of claim 31, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 5 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

34. The HIV-1 virus of claim 31, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 7 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

35. A purified HIV-1 virus,
wherein said virus encodes an Env protein comprising an amino acid sequence that comprises at least 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

36. The HIV-1 virus of claim 35, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

37. The HIV-1 virus of claim 35, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises more than 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

38. The HIV-1 virus of claim 37, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 3 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

39. The HIV-1 virus of claim 37, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 5 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

40. The HIV-1 virus of claim 37, wherein said amino acid sequence comprises 7 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

41. A purified HIV-1 polypeptide fragment,
wherein said polypeptide fragment binds to antibodies in LAS patient sera, and
wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises an amino acid sequence that comprises at least 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

42. The polypeptide fragment of claim 41, wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

43. The polypeptide fragment of claim 41, wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises more than 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

44. The polypeptide fragment of claim 43, wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises 3 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

45. The polypeptide fragment of claim 43, wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises 5 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

46. The polypeptide fragment of claim 43, wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises 7 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

47. The polypeptide fragment of any of claims 41-46, wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises 5-150 amino acid residues.

48. The polypeptide fragment of claim 47, wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises 5-250 amino acid residues.

49. The polypeptide fragment of claim 47, wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises one or more Asn-X-Thr or Asn-X-Ser groups.

50. The polypeptide fragment of any of claims 41-46, wherein said polypeptide fragment is a fragment of HIV-1 Gag.

51. The polypeptide fragment of any of claims 41-46, wherein said polypeptide fragment is a fragment of HIV-1 Pol.

52. The polypeptide fragment of any of claims 41-46, wherein said polypeptide fragment is a fragment of HIV-1 Env.

53. A purified HIV-1 nucleic acid fragment,
wherein said nucleic acid fragment encodes a polypeptide fragment,
wherein said polypeptide fragment binds to antibodies in LAS patient sera, and
wherein said polypeptide fragment comprises an amino acid sequence that
comprises at least 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that is
not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

54. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 53, wherein said encoded polypeptide
fragment comprises 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that
is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

55. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 53, wherein said encoded polypeptide
fragment comprises more than 1 amino acid residue of the amino acid sequence of
HIV-1ELI that is not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or
HIV-1ARV-2.

56. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 55, wherein said encoded polypeptide
fragment comprises 3 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that
are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

57. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 55, wherein said encoded polypeptide fragment comprises 5 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

58. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 55, wherein said encoded polypeptide fragment comprises 7 amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence of HIV-1ELI that are not present in the amino acid sequence of HIV-1IIIB, HIV-1BRU, or HIV-1ARV-2.

59. The nucleic acid fragment of any of claims 53-58, wherein said encoded polypeptide fragment comprises 5-150 amino acid residues.

60. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 59, wherein said encoded polypeptide fragment comprises 5-250 amino acid residues.

61. The nucleic acid fragment of claim 59, wherein said encoded polypeptide fragment comprises one or more Asn-X-Thr or Asn-X-Ser groups.

62. The nucleic acid fragment of any of claims 53-58, wherein said polypeptide fragment is a fragment of HIV-1 Gag.

63. The nucleic acid fragment of any of claims 53-58, wherein said polypeptide fragment is a fragment of HIV-1 Pol.

64. The nucleic acid fragment of any of claims 53-58, wherein said polypeptide fragment is a fragment of HIV-1 Env.--

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 23-64 are new are fully supported by the specification.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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